

Message Text

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44

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 041415Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8423
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 03581

EXDIS

BERLIN FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, GR, GW
SUBJECT: FRG ARMS ASSISTANCE TO GREECE AND TURKEY

REF: BONN 3157 (NOTAL)

1. A FONOFF NATO DERTMENT WORKING-LEVEL OFFICIAL CONFIRMED MARCH 3 THAT THE FRG DECISION TO SUPPLY ARMS TO GREECE AND TURKEY HAS FORMALLY TAKEN EFFECT (REFTEL). NO OBJECTIONS WERE RAISED BY ANY MINISTRY. THE PROBLEM NOW IS TO DEVELOP SPECIFIC PLANS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE DECISION. THE FRG IS RELUCTANT TO TAKE ACTION UNTIL THE UN SECURITY COUNCIL DEBATE ON CYPRUS HAS TAKEN PLACE, AND IT MAY BE SOME TIME BEFORE A SPECIFIC PLAN IS FINALIZED.

2. AFTER A COORDINATED, "BALANCED" PLAN IS DEVELOPED, OUR SOURCE CONTINUED, BUNDESTAG FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND BUDGET COMMITTEES WILL BE APPROACHED OH A HIGHLY CONFIDENTIAL BASIS FOR LEGISLATIVE ACTION. (COMMENT: NEWSPAPER REPORTS ON FEBRUARY 26 INDICATED THAT THE CONFIDENTIAL

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CDU/CSU WOULD HAVE NO OBJECTION TO THE RESUMPTIOH OF

ARMS SHIPMENTS TO GREECE AND TURKEY. THE REPORTS
CONTINUED THAT 65 MILLION DM WAS AVAILABLE FOR TURKEY,
BUT THAT ENTIRELY NEW FINANCIAL MEANS WOULD HAVE TO BE
FOUND FOR GREECE.) THE OFFICIAL SAID RESTITUTION OF
AID TO TURKEY IS RELATIVELY EASY WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF
THE 7TH TRANCHE WITH THE TURKS RECEIVING BOTH NEW AND
SURPLUS EQUIPMENT. THE GREEKS WOULD RECEIVE INITIALLY
ONLY SURPLUS EQUIPMENT, WITH PERHAPS NEW EQUIPMENT BEING
PROVIDED LATER WHEN FUNDING ARRANGEMENTS ARE WORKED OUT.

3. OUR SOURCE WAS RELUCTANT TO INDICATE WHEN THE FRG
WOULD MAKE A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE DECISION
TO RESUME MILITARY ASSISTANCE. HE EMPHASIZED THE FRG
INTENTION TO MOVE VERY CAREFULLY ON THIS MATTER.

HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MILITARY ASSISTANCE, POLICIES, PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BONN03581
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750075-0862
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750386/aaaacziu.tel
Line Count: 76
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 BONN 3157
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <07 MAY 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <08 MAY 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FRG ARMS ASSISTANCE TO GREECE AND TURKEY
TAGS: PFOR, MASS, TU, GR, GE
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006